

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 01399 011058Z

10

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 ACDA-05 OIC-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 DPW-01 /062 W

----- 111245

R 011030Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1068

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ICRC PARM PFOR

SUBJECT: LAWS OF WAR CONFERENCE AT MID-SESSION

1. IN VIEW OF THE TECHNICAL NATURE OF MUCH OF THE WORK AND THE FACT THAT MOST OF THE INTERESTED EXPERTS IN USG ARE MEMBERS OF USDEL, REPORTING ON WORK OF SUBJECT CONFERENCE HAS BEEN LIMITED. HOWEVER, GENERAL SUMMARY OF PROGRESS AND PROSPECTS SEEMS DESIRABLE AS WE REACH MID-POINT OF PRESNET 10-WEEK SESSION.

2. IN GENERAL, PROGRESS HAS BEEN ABOUT AS USDEL ANTICIPATED, THAT IS UNEVEN. SECOND COMMISSION (MEDICAL PROVISIONS) AND THIRD COMMISSION (PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS) HAVE MADE ENCOURAGING PROGRESS AND ARE WORKING CONSTRUCTIVELY. U.S. PROPOSAL ON MISSING AND DEAD APPEARS CERTAIN TO BE ACCEPTED. PRELIMINARY CONSULTATIONS ON MEDICAL TRANSPORT, INCLUDING MEDICAL AIRCRAFT, DISCLOSES BROAD SUPPORT AND NO SERIOUS OPPOSITION TO U.S. PROPOSAL. WEAPONS COMMISSION HAS SHOWN ONLY SLIGHT INCREASE IN LIMITED SUPPORT FOR SWEDISH PROPOSALS IN CONCERNING CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS. PRINCIPAL CONCERN IS FIRST COMMISSION, WHICH HAS BOGGED DOWN IN CONSIDERATION OF ARTICLES ON PROTECTING POWERS AND SCOPE OF PROTOCOL II ON NON-INTERNATIONAL ARMED CONFLICTS. IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT A REASONABLY SATISFACTORY ARTICLE ON PROTECTING POWERS WILL

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 01399 011058Z

ULTIMATELY EMERGE, BUT SLOW PACE OF WORK INDICATES THAT

MOST OF THE ARTILCES TO BE CONSIDERED BY THAT COMMISSION  
WILL NOT BE SETTLED UNTIL A THIRD SESSION OF THE CONFER-  
ENCE, IN 1976, WHICH IS NOW GENERALLY REGARDED AS UN-  
AVOIDABLE. PROTOCOL II WILL PROBABLY EMERGE IN RELATIVE-  
LY MEANINGLESS FORM, APPLICABLE ONLY TO VERY LARGE-  
SCALE, HIGH INTENSITY CONFLICTS.

3. IT REMAINS IMPOSSIBLE TO KNOW WHETHER FINAL END  
PRODUCT WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO USG, ALTHOUGH IT IS CERT-  
AINLY TRUE THAT BOTH RESULTS TO DATE AND AND CONSTRUCTIVE  
ATMOSPHERE OF CONFERENCE ARE VASTLY IMPROVED FROM  
FIRST SESSION OF CONFERENCE IN 1974. IN ANY EVENT,  
USDEL IS PURSUING ITS GOAL OF TRYING TO BRING ABOUT  
BEST POSSIBLE PROTOCOLS TO GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 1949.  
ONLY WHEN THEY ARE FINISHED WILL WE BE ABLE TO TAKE  
CAREFULLY CONSIDERED DECISION ON THAT QUESTION. DALE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, LAW OF WAR, MEETING DELEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION L  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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